



# CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

## Christian Secretary.

HARTFORD, FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1848.

### The Covington Theological Institute.

The recent action of the Kentucky Legislature in reference to this Institution has attracted the attention of the denomination, and the friends of the Institution in particular, to its origin and objects. We have before us the *First Annual Report of the Trustees of the Institution, together with the Proceedings of the General Convocation of Western Baptists, held at Cincinnati, commencing November 6, 1841*, from which we collect the following facts.

The first meeting of the Convention of Western Baptists was held in Cincinnati in the month of November, 1833. At that meeting a constitution was adopted, among the provisions of which, it was stipulated that at each annual meeting, committees should be appointed to prepare reports on such subjects as might be deemed expedient—among the most prominent of which was *ministerial education*. In accordance with this provision of the constitution, a committee of five brethren was appointed, to prepare a report on this subject, including an inquiry respecting a *Central Theological Institution*. This committee consisted of S. M. NOEL; J. M. PECK; S. W. LYND; E. W. FISHER, and EPHRAIM ROBINS, who the following year presented an able report to the Convention through the Rev. John M. Peck. The report met with the approbation of the Convention, and a resolution was adopted declaring it expedient that a Baptist Theological Institution of the character contemplated in the report be established at some eligible point in the Western country.

The committee was then discharged, and another committee consisting of J. L. Holman, E. Robins, J. M. Peck, J. Pratt, G. C. Sedgwick, J. E. Welch, S. W. Lynd, P. S. Gale, Thos. P. Greene, Thos. P. Jones, C. Vanbuskirk, J. Gong, R. E. Pattison, E. Doleman and U. B. Chambers, was appointed to report upon a location, and any further measures necessary to be adopted in relation to the establishment of such an Institution. This committee reported in favor of a central Theological Institution for the great *Western Valley* and likewise recommended the formation of a Western Baptist Education Society. Resolutions were adopted accordingly, and an Education Society formed the same day. This Society was controlled by a Board of directors consisting of two members from each Western State, and one from each Territory, whose duty it was made, immediately after their election annually, to make choice of an Executive Committee of twelve members, who should have the entire management of the pecuniary affairs of the Society, take measures for the establishment of a Theological institution, appoint its first Trustees and Instructors, and to fix the tenure of their offices.

There were 81 delegates present at the Convention which made these appointments, 46 of whom were from Ohio, 10 from Kentucky, one from Tennessee, six from Indiana, five from Illinois, two from Missouri; one from Western Virginia, one from Western Pennsylvania, and nine from the "Eastern States."

Of the twelve members of the Executive Committee, appointed by the Board of Directors, six only resided in Cincinnati and its immediate vicinity, viz.: S. W. Lynd, E. Robins, N. S. Johnson, J. Stevens, J. Colby and J. B. Cook. These six resident members fixed upon a tract of land in the rear of the city of Covington, Ky., as the most desirable location, and in the Spring of 1835, they purchased, on their own responsibility, three several tracts of land adjoining each other, and overlooking the city of Cincinnati; the whole containing about 370 acres, for the sum of \$313,250. The United States Bank owned 153 acres of this land, Alfred Sandford 41 acres, and the heirs of Robert Kyle, 136 acres. Payments were to be made in sums ranging from \$2,950 to \$800, in the months of May annually, in the years 1835—36—37—38—39 and 40.

In order to meet the early payments, the Committee, in the Summer of 1835 disposed of 90 acres of the land (less three acres reserved for a church and a high school,) for the sum of \$22,500.

From the Spring of 1835 until the Spring of 1838, from a variety of reasons, not necessary to be stated, says the Report, but little was attempted beyond renting the land from year to year for farming purposes. In the year 1838 the Committee perceived that the undertaking would prove disastrous unless immediate measures were taken to extricate threatened embarrassments, committed its management to an energetic superintendent, Ephraim Robins, Esq., of Cincinnati, and formerly of Hartford. He proceeded at once to the adoption of preliminary measures, and early in the following year presented a plan, which was unanimously adopted, for laying out the whole property in town lots, reserving an oblong square of twelve acres, beautifully situated upon the highest ground in the tract, as a site for the public buildings. Immediately after the property was thus laid out, a regular system of public improvements was commenced, by grading the square—the streets—commencing the erection of the public buildings—laying out an extensive rural cemetery, &c. Within three years from this time about one hundred and fifty buildings were erected within two squares of the public grounds. To the energy and good taste of Mr. Robins, more than any other individual has the Covington Institute become what it is. The editor of the *Banner* and *Pioneer* himself somewhere about the year 1843, paid a most deserved compliment to this gentleman, since deceased, for his zeal and prudent management of this business, and for placing the Institution upon a permanent basis.

In the Winter of 1830—40, a charter was obtained from the Legislature of Kentucky, under which the Trustees organized themselves into a Board, and transferred the entire property to the Trustees of the Western Baptist Theological Institute.

The main building is an elegant brick structure four stories high, surmounted with a balcony, or obser

atory, commanding one of the most beautiful panoramas which can be presented in this or any other country. The edifice is 120 feet long by 46 in width, and will accommodate about 100 stu

dents, and will be available for the use of the public.

In addition to the sale of 90 acres of land in 1835, for \$22,500; there had been realized up to the year 1843 from public and private sales made from year to year, \$39,500, making an aggregate of \$62,000, of which sum \$23,000 had been paid on the original purchase money and interest; \$25,000 for the erection of the public edifice, \$7,500 for the Pavilion; and for enclosing and grading the public square and the cemetery, opening and grading two miles of streets, &c., \$6,500. The

amount due from the Institution at that time was \$17,000. To meet this indebtedness the Institute held property, including 700 town lots estimated at \$100 each, 40 choice lots adjoining Theological Square, at \$400; 14 acres of wood land, 1600 lots in the Cemetery, at \$15 each, the Institute building and the Pavilion or Mansion House, amounting in all, at a moderate estimate to \$143,000; from which deduct the \$17,000 due from the Institute, and there remained a balance of \$126,500 in its favor.

Jonathan Bacheller, Esq., of Lynn, Mass., loaned the Committee \$7000 at simple interest, in 1835, and other loans on equally favorable terms were made in Cincinnati. An appeal to the friends of education was made in 1843, for assistance in liquidating the demands against the Institution, the immediate cause of which was the commercial embarrassments of the country for a few years preceding, which had affected the price and the sale of lands in Covington, as well as in all other parts of the Union. Some generous subscriptions were made, but from some cause which we do not now recollect, we understand they were not paid. The property was preserved however, and the Institution went into operation a few years since under the direction of the Rev. Dr. Pattison as its President, under whose faithful administration it has continued to prosper up to the present time. We add here an extract from the *First Annual Report of the Western Baptist Education Society*, to show more particularly, the object for which this Institution was reared.

"The location is in Kentucky, while yet the citizens of Ohio can look out from their metropolis and behold its classic walls, with scarce a consciousness that a river rolls between. Kentucky will feel pleased that it is here; Ohio will feel pleased that it is here; while, in fact, it belongs to neither, but is to be looked upon as a great Institution, devised for the benefit of the West, to belong to all who give it the aid of their countenance, prayers and co-operation."

It is well known that the editor of the *Banner* and *Pioneer* at Louisville, Ky., demanded of Dr. Pattison, soon after his arrival at Covington, an exposition of his views on the anti-slavery question, which Dr. P. very properly declined by maintaining silence on the subject. The *Banner* has continued its attack upon the Institution and its President from that time till within a few months, with but little intermission. From a late number of that paper it appears that an amendment to the charter of the Institute has been obtained from the Kentucky Legislature, which adds *sixteen* additional Trustees to the faculty, *all of whom must be residents of Kentucky*. This of course gives the entire control of the Institution to Kentucky, although it does not appear that any citizen of that State ever paid a single dollar towards its establishment.

It would be premature in undertaking to say what is to be the result of this novel proceeding, but from our geographical location we have a right to guess what some of the consequences will be. Dr. Pattison will be required to answer the question which has so long been pressed upon him, or leave the Institution. The former he will never do, and there remains but the other alternative. The probability is that the Institution will shortly become a willing tool of the aristocratic, slaveholding portion of the Kentucky Baptists, and they are as fairly entitled to it by the laws of God and eternal justice, as ever they were to the flesh and bones of the human beings they are now holding in bondage.

### Bible History of Revivals.

UNDER THE MINISTRY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST.

No. VII.—Matt. iii. Mark i. Luke iii.

Again let us take a long stride in the march of time. More than four centuries since Ezra and Nehemiah wrought partial reforms among the Jews, had witnessed strange fortunes in the progress of that strange people. It had seen the downfall of three dynasties, with which their welfare was connected, and more revolutions than had numbered scores of years. And with all this rising and falling tide of fortune, the religious interests of Judea and the world, fluctuated, keeping time with their rising and declining fate, until a gloom, dense as that which settled on devoted Egypt, spread, pall-like, over all the land.

The four centuries at length passed, like the watches of a long and lonely night, and the morning dawn of a brighter and a better day, began to throw its cheery light over the sad and weary earth. The morning star that heralded the Sun of Righteousness, rose with a clear and heavenly light, smiling on a dark world, with omens of good.

The word of the Lord, "Behold! I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me," had found its fulfillment in him who came "in the spirit and power of Elijah." On hill and plain, far off and nigh, was heard, with solemn suddenness, the stillness of Judah's moral night, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Prepare ye the way for the kingdom of heaven at hand.'

The Baptist was a man of singular habits; his austerity and piety were well known, and for him the regards of all the people. Sprung from a priestly family, the circumstances attending his birth were remarkable, so much so, as to prove evidently that God had anointed him for this special mission; "This is he that was spoken by the prophet Isaiah." "And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his food was locust and wild honey." His early years he spent in those parts of the country less densely populated, and in general retirement from the more busy scenes of common life. Little is known of this period beyond these simple facts, but at the age of thirty, he began to act a more prominent part, and struck still more the public eye. "In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea."

Nor did he secure attention more by the singularity of his life, than by the peculiar earnestness and power with which he urged the precepts of divine truth upon the consciences of the people, or the boldness and severity with which he exposed and rebuked their sins, and directed them in the ways of virtue and holiness. He preached "the baptism of repentance, for the remission of sins." Widely different was his teaching from that of the scribes and Pharisees, the acknowledged teachers of the law, who stood more in "meats and drinks," and carnal ordinances, and cared less for a pure and a penitent heart. "And he came into all the country about Jordan," preaching and baptizing; and teaching them to believe on him who was to come after him, but greater than he, of whom he said,—"There standeth one among you whom ye know not; one mightier than I, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose." "These things

were done in Bethabara, beyond Jordan, where John was baptizing."

The rumor of his doings soon spread abroad, "And there went out unto him all the land of Judea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins."

It is by no means surprising that such preaching, so different from anything to which the people had before listened, should attract general attention; nor is it strange that when he pressed home truth upon their consciences, attended, as it was, by divine power, they should, by it, be convicted of their sins, and turn by repentance to God. So manifestly did power from on high attend the word he spoke,—so evidently did the Spirit of God sanctified and succeeded his labors, that the entire land was moved. Day by day multitudes flocked from all directions to listen to him, and receive baptism at his hands. Indeed it seemed as if but one sentiment influenced them, while they thronged the banks of Jordan, in whose waters he baptized them. The high and the low, from far off and nigh, they gathered around the Baptist; the hypocritical Pharisee, the self-confident Sadducee, the avurious and exacting publican, the hardened soldier, with the pious expectant of the "consolations of Israel," with a common anxiety and a common interest, listened to the words that fell from his lips, and were done in Bethabara, beyond Jordan, where John was baptizing."

The rumor of his doings soon spread abroad, "And there went out unto him all the land of Judea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins." The constant recurring sin of that people, was now unknown as such, among them. Since their return from Babylon, they had abhorred idolatry; of course no demonstrations could be made against it by those who became the disciples of John. Their honesty was manifested by the interest with which they attended his ministry, without any of the inducements which attract the curiosity or curiosity of the multitude.

2. Idolatry, which in past ages had been the constantly recurring sin of that people, was now unknown as such, among them. Since their return from Babylon, they had abhorred idolatry; of course no demonstrations could be made against it by those who became the disciples of John.

Rev. Jacob Knapp is at present preaching, every afternoon and evening, to crowded audiences, in the 12th street Baptist church. At the close of the conference this morning I saw several of the brethren accompanying the pastor, Rev. S. A. Corey, to extend the hand of fraternal regard, to this veteran evangelist, who still, amid all the obloquy of a perverse generation holds on his way.

3. The character of the Baptist is one, the study of which might be specially profitable to the preacher of truth, particularly in that meek submissiveness to the Master he served, that made him as "the friend of the bridegroom, rejoice greatly because of the bridegroom's voice," and willing to have his name obscured by the divine honors due to the Son of God.

4. Doctors and counsellors, scribes and Pharisees, might have regarded the assemblies that waited on the Baptist's ministry, as disorderly and irregular, and tending to bring religion into disrepute, meeting as they did "in the open air, and in desert places; but the prince Messiah honored these meetings with his presence, and received baptism at his servant's hand; the Holy Ghost descended, and acknowledged the scene, and the Father's voice was heard in no repeating tones.

5. The means used, was the ministry of the truth, conspiring with the designs of God's grace; for it must be acknowledged this was no revival "got up" by human caprice or human power, but the development of pre-determined plans of divine wisdom. What centuries had waited for, was on

realized now, in the *fullness of time*.

altars, and sacrifices, and priests, and Levites, and the worshippers looking through symbolic offerings to see dimly shadowed the great truths they needed,—with all this, was contrasted the plain, simple teaching of a man who said just what he meant, without symbols or types, and applied the truth directly to their hearts and consciences. No other ceremony was now but, baptism, a seal of discipline.

of the church, and, under God, the conversion of sinners. But I am not going into a history on revival efforts, at present. The several pastors who labor in these efforts look in their countenance, some as I suppose Jacob did when he came from the wrestling ground, where he was made a cripple for life. And while speaking of a cripple I am reminded that our good Br. C. M. Fuller, whose love, if not praise, "is in all the churches," came into our midst, hobbling upon a crutch, a *cripple*. Not from the touch of the angel's finger, but from a sad accident while in the discharge of his duty. Whether he will ever fully recover, is we fear, doubtful.

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## Poetry.

From the Northern Literary Messenger.

## The Christian Gladiator.

By REV. S. D. PHILP.

Morn smiled on Rome. Bright from the orient sky,  
Serene and fair, the golden sun-light fell  
In floods of glory on the Eternal City.  
All beautiful, the world's metropolis,  
Fearless she sat upon her seven glad hills,  
Amid the windings of the Tiber's course.  
Wrapt in the gorgeous drapery of light,  
Her gold-enamelled towers and glittering domes  
Threw back the splendor of the glorious sun,  
And rivaled him in beauty. Monuments  
And pyramids, the spoils of Egypt's art,  
Whose sunlit summits kissed the bending sky,  
Blood in imposing grandeur. Crystal founts  
Leapt from their hidden channels and diffused  
Upon the ambient air their silvery spray.  
Tall, dark and beautiful, the spreading clms  
Waved their dense foliage o'er the public walks,  
And threw their shadows on the Capitol.  
The Forum, stretching toward the Palatine,  
Along whose fresco-ceilings oft had rolled  
The thunder-tones of Roman eloquence,  
Was there—Nero's residence of gold,  
A thousand palaces within its walls,  
Decked by the countless wealth of realms subdued.  
The Coliseum, seat of Roman sports,  
Upread its front sublime in new and broad  
Magnificence; and temples garnished o'er  
With living canvas and the breathing marble—  
Fit dwelling-places of immortal gods!

It was a festal day in Rome. The dense, Unnumbered multitudes, like clustering clouds That track the sky, had hastened to the scene Of sport, and in the Coliseum gathered— That wondrous relic of Vespasian's power, Whose heaven-aspiring walls of adamant, Adorned with columns, arches and arcades, Still strike the gazer with resistless awe.  
And there they sat, in radiant robes attired,— The Emperor and his court, the thoughtful sage, And the stern warrior; tradesmen, architects, Matrons and maidens, and Rome's youthful sons, Crowding the thousand gleaming galleries, That stretched away, far as the eye could reach, Around the Amphitheater. They came, The fight of men with beasts untamed to view, And see the CHRISTIAN GLADIATOR die, Unspiked, on the broad arena.

Long

Had the impetuous combats of the wild, Infuriated monsters of the forest-depths, And deadlier strife of reckless criminals, Been witnessed by the rapt, delighted throng, Who, gazing from their lofty seats, inured To scenes of conflict and of carnage, saw The scattered fragments of dismembered forms, The dying struggles of the vanquished foe, With hearts fit to close; and gladly hailed The conqueror's triumph with successive shouts, Sweeping the vast enclosure round and round, And rolling upward to the arching skies, Like pealing thunders of Olympian Jove!

They paused; and every eye was fixed intent Upon the Christian Gladiator, brought To the arena by a Roman Lictor, To the arena by a Roman Lictor, To expiate the crime of teaching men A new religion. Gladly had he heard The touching story of the CAVIARIES, As from the great Apostle's lips it fell, In strains of soul-subduing eloquence. He felt—believed it—and celestial joy Filled all the channels of his soul. As forth He went among the people, he rebuked Their idol-worship, and proclaimed abroad The wonders of the Cross. The faithless laid Their impious hands upon the guiltless one, And basely dragged him to the judgment-hall. False, false, they witnessed and sneered his doom— To meet in deadly strife the mightiest beast, Numidia's forest-king.

The Lictor led

The Christian Gladiator forth. His sword Hung careless at his side. As if alone, Holding communion with himself, he stood Unmoved, and mindless of the imposing scene. Before him crouched his savage combatant. Silence had thrown upon the gazing throng Her magic spell. Calm was the Christian's brow— Erect his form—heavenly visage won The sympathy of all. He bent his knee Upon the sand, already damp with gore, Clasped his pure hands together, and upraised His beaming eye toward heaven, and silently Implored Omnipotence to cast round him The shield of His defense. His prayer was heard.

The radiant smile that played upon his lips, Told how he felt the presence of that Power Divine, which kept the Judah-captive safe In the dark den of lions. Strange emotions Thrilled through the multitude that almost made Life's crimson streams congeal. An all-pervading Stillness, intense, profound as that which regus Amid the charnel chambers of the tomb, Brooded on all, like the unbroken spell Of death! The lion's mane had fallen low, His eye had lost its wildness, and he seemed To shrink before the presence of his strange Antagonist. Urged by the Lictor's goad, He gathered in the majesty of might, And furious on the Gladiator fell.

His sword the monster for a while repelled, Till overpowered by far superior strength, He dropped at last beneath the lion's feet! Faint murmurings of mingled joy and grief Rose on the voiceless air. Triumphant notes Began to swell—when suddenly up-sprang The Christian, sternly grasped his sword afresh, And nerve with more than earthly energy, He grappled with the foe anew, and hewed His weapon drink the life-blood of his heart! 'Twas done—the thunder-shout of victory, Of life and freedom to the wondrous man, Sped like a whirlwind through the mighty crowd, And thrice it swept the Coliseum round, And up it rolled from tier to lofty tier, And echoed back from wall to answering wall.

Forth from the throng, and grateful to his God, The Christian Gladiator went, prepared By trial and by conquest, to surmount The ills of life, the woes of Godless men,— To publish tidings of celestial joy To thousands wrapt in dark idolatry; And bear the glorious standard of the Cross, Like him who "naught with beasts at Ephesus." He had a nobler victory still to win, And laurels of a brighter hue to gain; 'Twas his to point the way to heaven—to save The lost—to wear, at last, a crown of life!

NEW HAVEN, CT.

It is heaven upon earth, to have a man's mind move in charity, rest in Providence, and turn upon the poles of truth.

## Fear, as a Motive to Repentance.

The alternative which the Gospel holds out is endless happiness in heaven, or endless suffering in hell; and the view of this alternative may well be supposed to operate to a certain degree on base and sordid minds—on those who, without any sense of virtue, or any preference of its proper enjoyments, as naturally the greatest good, make no other choice of heaven than as the least of two great evils. To be deprived of sensual gratification, they hold to be an evil of no moderate size, to which they must submit in heaven; but yet they conceive of this absence of pleasure as more tolerable than positive torment, which they justly apprehend those who are excluded from heaven must undergo in the place of punishment. Of minds thus depraved, the view of the alternative of endless misery was intended to operate; and it is an argument of God's wonderful mercy that he has been pleased to display such prospects of futurity as may affect the human mind in its most corrupt and hardened state—that men in this unworthy state, in this state of enmity with God, are yet the objects of his care and pity—that "the wileth not the death of a sinner, but that the sinner should turn from his way and live." But to imagine that any one whom the warnings of the Gospel may not otherwise affect, than with the dread of the punishment of sin—that any one in whom they may work only a reluctant choice of heaven, as eligible only in comparison with a state of torment—does merely in those feelings, or by a putridinian in vice, which is the most those feelings can effect, satisfy the duties of the Christian calling—to imagine this, is a strange misconception of the whole scheme of Christianity. The utmost good to be expected from the principle of fear is, that it may induce a state of mind in which better principles may take effect. It may bring the sinner to hesitate between self-denial here with heaven in reversion, and gratification here with future sufferings.

and kissed me. One of the last things he said, was, "When you write to Grellett, tell him all about me."

## Interior of the Earth.

A fact of great interest has been proved by the researches of Artesian wells in the suburbs of Paris, namely, that as we go toward the centre of the earth the temperature increases at the rate of about one degree for every fifty feet. That the whole interior portion of the earth, or at least a great portion of it, is an igneous scene of melted rock, agitated by violent winds, though I dare not affirm it, is still rendered highly probable by the phenomena of volcanoes. The facts concerned with their eruptions have been ascertained and placed beyond a doubt. How then are they to be accounted for? The theory prevalent a few years since, that they are caused by the combustion of immense coal beds, is perfectly absurd and is entirely abandoned. All the coal in the world would never afford fuel enough for a single capital exhibition of Vesuvius. We must look higher than this; and I have little doubt that the whole rests on the action of electric and galvanic principles which are constantly in operation in the earth. We know that when certain metals are brought together, powerful electric action is evolved, and a light is produced, superior even in fulgence to the splendor of the sun. Now, if a small arrangement produces such results, what may we not expect from the combination of these immense beds of metal to be found in the earth? Here we have the key to all the grand phenomena of volcanic action. An illustration on a small scale may be seen in an instrument called the theometric battery, made of zinc, bismuth, and antimony, packed in a box, and varnished. In this heat is evolved below, while the top is cold; and here we have the very cause of the volcano, when in the interior a fiery ocean is heating its surges, while its peak is capped with everlasting snows.—Prof. Silliman.

Wellington after the Battle of Waterloo.

It was late, it was midnight, when the Duke of Wellington lay down. He had not found time so much as to wash his face or his hands; but, overcome with fatigue, threw himself, after finishing his despatches, on his bed. He had seen Dr. Hume, and desired him to come punctually at seven in the morning with his report; and the latter, who took no rest, but spent the night beside the wounded, came at the hour appointed. He knocked at the Duke's door, but received no answer; he lifted the latch and looked in, and seeing him in a sound sleep, could not find it in his heart to awaken him; and by and by, however, reflecting on the importance of time to a man in the Duke's high situation, he being well aware that it formed no article in His Grace's code to prefer personal indulgence of any sort to public duty, he proceeded to the bedside and roused the sleeper. The Duke sat up in bed; his face was unshaven, and covered with the dust and smoke of yesterday's battle, presented a rather strange appearance; yet his senses were collected, and in a moment he desired Hume to make his statement. The latter produced his list, and began to read: but when he proceeded, name after name—this as of one dead, the other as of one dying—his voice failed him; and, looking up, he saw that the Duke was in an agony of grief; the tears chased one another from His Grace's eyes, making deep furrows in the soldier's blackened checks, and at last he threw himself back upon his pillow, and groaned aloud. "It has been my good fortune never to lose a battle; yet all this glory can by no means compensate for so great a loss of friends," he cried. "What victory is not too dearly purchased at such a cost?"

## Life's Difficulties.

The first thing, depend upon it, is to look upon a new life with a different eye; to resolve firmly and strongly to grapple with the change which fortune has forced upon you, and to wring from it all the benefits which it is capable of yielding; to cast away vain regrets, and make ready for the future as a new being. As you cannot fit your fate to yourself, fit yourself to your fate; and it is wonderful how soon you will find difficulties vanish, disgusts disappear, and new sources of pleasure springing up where you least expected them. If there be anything in the past which goes beyond regret—anything, I mean, that you condemn, repair it as far as you have means, that the shadow of things that you have left behind you may not cloud the sunshine of those before you.—*Russell*, by G. P. R. James.

## Language.

The long period of human life in early time would secure the stability of the first language so that we are not to wonder at their being still but one language at the end of two thousand years. Etymologists have tried to discredit the confusion which took place at Babel, by pointing out common words in the various languages of the world. But it need not that there should be a total diversity in order to stop the channels of a mutual understanding among men. A change in a small proportion of the principal words that were most necessary for the purposes of society, and therefore the most frequently used, would suffice for putting an end to all useful converse, by the constant blunders and cross purposes that would ensue. That was certainly a most stupendous miracle which led to the dispersion of mankind over all the countries of the world; and whereby, as told him, that though I was conscious of being a very weak and feeble instrument, I believed that our Divine Master had sent me to comfort and encourage him. He replied, "I believe so." He then embraced

But there was another miracle equally stupendous, and a miracle of tongues too, by which the people of all various languages were recalled to the faith from which they had departed. By the one miracle each tribe, understanding only their own speech were secluded from the rest of mankind, because, saving the words used by themselves, they understood no languages. By the other miracle, the apostles and the first teachers of Christianity were made to understand all languages. By the first, God raised up barriers for the segregation of the species into distinct communities. By the second he threw down these barriers that the bearers of the heavenly message might range freely over the world, and gather out of all nations the family of the faithful.—*Dr. Chalmers' Daily Scripture Reading.*

## The Wonders of Prayer.

Abraham's servant prays—Rebekah appears. Jacob wrestles and prays—the angel is conquered, and Esau's mind is wonderfully turned from the revengeful purpose he has harbored for twenty years.—Moses prays—Amalek is discomfited. Joshua prays—Achan is discovered. Hannah prays—Samuel is born. David prays—Ahitophel hangs himself. Asa prays—A victory is gained. Jehoshaphat prays—God turns away his face. Isaiah and Hezekiah pray—one hundred and eighty-five thousand Assyrians are dead in twelve hours. Daniel prays—the lions are muzzled. Mordecai and Esther fast—Haman is hanged on his own gallows in three days. Ezra prays at Ahava—God answers. Nehemiah darts a prayer—the king's heart is softened in a minute. Elijah prays—drought of three years succeeds. Elijah prays—rain descends upon him. Elijah prays—Jordan is divided. Elisha prays—a child's soul comes back. The church prays—Peter is delivered by an angel. Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises—the doors of the prison were opened, and every man's bands were loosed. Prayer has divided seas, rolled up flowing rivers, made flinty rocks gush from fountains, quenched flames of fire, muzzled lions, disarmed vipers and poisons, marshalled the stars against the wicked, stopped the course of the moon, arrested the rapid sun in his great race, burst open iron gates, recalled souls from eternity, conquered the strongest devils, commanded legions of angels down from heaven. Prayer has bridled and chained the raging passions of men, and routed and destroyed vast armies of proud, daring, blustering atheists. Prayer has brought one man from the bottom of the sea, and carried another a chariot of fire to heaven. What has not prayer done!—*Ryland.*

For the Baltimore Am. Farmer.

The Homestead and the Garden.

It is not sufficient that a farmer or planter should be attentive to the cultivation of his fields—that he should provide for them ample supplies of manure, see that his ploughing, his harrowing, and his rolling is well done, and his crops well tended. He may have done all these things, and success may have crowned his efforts to fertilize his arable lands, increase the quantity and quality of his crops, and add to his pecuniary wealth—still, if he shall have omitted to adorn his dwelling with shade trees and shrubbery, and provide a good garden for his household comfort and convenience, he will have failed in the full discharge of his duty. A house in the country without trees and shrubbery, to relieve the eye and ensure protection, is among the most cheerless sights which can be presented to human vision, and never fails to impress the stranger with an unfavorable opinion of its owner, with regard to those enjoyments of sense which so essentially enter into, and are commingled with, the outward sources of the happiness of one's family. Well convinced are we, that appointments of the kind around one's home, besides endearing that home to its possessor, by all the ties of esteem, and to give him additional claims to the love of his family, and ensures the respect of all; as while it proves that his heart has not been indifferent to domestic sympathies, nor turned a deaf ear to the obligations of duty at home, it is also evincive of that respect for public opinion, which the virtuous and good ever cherish, and whose possession and display, so commend one to the kindly regards of his fellow-men.

Independently, however, of these considerations, which, of themselves, should exert potential influence upon all well-regulated minds, and find a response in every generous heart,—as a mere matter of profit, the garden, when judiciously managed, may be made the most profitable part of a farmer's estate; for besides furnishing daily supplies of vegetables for his table, it may be a source of no inconsiderable emolument through its surplus products disposed of at market,—or, if, perchance, he is too remote to avail himself of that advantage, its offal and surplus produce will enable him to better his stock, and thus find his remuneration for the labor bestowed in its culture.

When we speak of the garden, we would not be considered as looking to it solely for its edibles, for its main comforts—for although we would have its appointments, in that respect, to embrace all the vegetable tribes that have been converted to culinary uses, yet our views go farther and embrace a wider field than these. We would have its borders adorned with shrubbery and flowers of every tint and hue, from the Rose, the queen of all, the Dahlia, the gorgeous favorite, the Lily of the Valley, immortalized in holy song, to the tiniest blossom that deserves admiration or warms into being grandeur for the mighty works of the Creator. A garden, with such adornments, is grateful to the matronly pride of our wives, and awakens kindred emotions in the minds

of our daughters; and unless he be insensible to those beauties which Providence has so munificently bestowed, to sweeten the thorny paths of life, it must make the husband and the father, not only better contented with his home, but fill him with love for all around him, as the gratification of the rational appetites of those whom we cherish in the warmth of our affection, should ever, and must be, foremost in our thoughts. Everything connected with rural life—all its associations—all its duties—would imply, that besides rendering such a home tributary to our wants, it should be so improved, that its embellishments should tell that it was the abode of refinement—and that its in-dwellers were equally alive to the elegancies, as to the necessities of life. Never, in our travels through the country, have we seen the woodbine or the honeysuckle, twining around the porch of the farmhouse—and its small court filled with shrubbery—without indulging, with our known them, profound respect for its inmates and sometimes, when such attention to the external appearances have been so isolated as almost to partake of the character of *Oases* in the desert, we have felt our heart yearning to become the familiar of the occupants, that we might offer up our poor thanks to them, and thus bear a pleasing, though humble testimony of the acceptable service they had performed, in relieving the eye of the traveller from the dull monotony of cheerless homes, of quickening into freshness those feelings, which spring from a high appreciation of the merits of those who may be the subjects of our thoughts, whose taste had challenged our admiration and won our esteem.

coming lonely night. The soul withdraws into itself. The stars arise, and the night

STRANGER'S SEATS.—One main objection to the system of owning pews in a church, would be obviated, if the congregation would always act upon the principle implied in the following anecdote.

Some time since a lad went into the church of this City, and asked a boy at the door if there were any stranger's seats in the church. "Yes madam," said he. "Then please show me one." "Walk in," he replied with a polite bow. "They are all over the church.—*Watchman and Obs.*

TYPE.—Some of our readers may have seen a book bearing this title, the author of which, an American, slanders the Sandwich island missionaries and missions without stint and without a blush. A copy having reached the islands, the Editor of the "Friend" published there, in speaking of this work of Melville's:

"Scores of passages might be quoted, showing that the writer sunk lower than the debased people among whom he took up his temporary abode. On the islands of Polynesia are scattered multitudes of young men from Europe and America, who are living in the same condition of Rousseau society, and it only needs the pen of a Melville to make such a life worthy of praise. It surely is not strange that such a man could find but little to praise and much to blame in the efforts of his missionary countrymen."

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Hartford, Jan. 1847.

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The following gentlemen are Directors of the Company:</p